

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LOME 00123 161135Z POSS DUPE
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 IO-13
HA-05 /081 W
-----021199 161254Z /43

R 160930Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3381
INFO SECDEF WASHDC ISA/DSAA
CNO WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE ECJ4/7
DEFREMANEDCEN MONTERREY CA
DIA WASHDC
USDAO ABIDJAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L L O M E 1 2 3

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT MASS TO US
SUBJ: THE IMPACT OF IMET TRAINING ON US-TOGOLESE BILATERAL
RELATIONS-REQUEST FOR CONTINUING PROGRAM

1. ST CYR-TRAINED LIEUTENANT KOMLAN FIATY PHONED AMBASSADOR
RECENTLY TO SAY HE HAD BEEN PROMOTED TO CAPTAIN. FIATY ALSO
NOTED THAT CAPTAIN KOUAO SANVEE HAD BEEN PROMOTED TO MAJOR AND
MAJOR TEYI AYELETE LAWSON HAD BEEN PROMOTED TO LIEUTENANT
COLONEL. LATER DURING TENNIS GAME FIATY EXPLAINED THAT PROMOTIONS
WERE IMPORTANT AMONG OTHER REASONS BECAUSE MEN IN QUESTION WERE
ALL SOUTHERNERS (ANOTHER OFFICER, A NORTHERNER, WAS ALSO PROMOTED
BUT HE IS IN THE MEDICAL CORPS). FIATY SAID IMPROVEMENT
OF RELATIONS WITH WEST AND USG HAD IMPROVED ATMOSPHERE WITHIN
ARMY FOR TRADITIONALLY PRO-WESTERN SOUTHERNERS.

2. FIATY SAID THAT IMPACT OF US TRAINING OF LTC KOFFI
KONGO (ONE OF LEADING SOUTHERNERS IN ARMY) AND CAPT WALLA
SIZING HAD BEEN SIGNIFICANT AND FAVORABLE ON PRESIDENT EYADEMAN
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ARMY AND GENERAL PUBLIC. THIS TRAINING, WHICH FIRST OF ITS
KIND, HAD BEEN VIEWED AS SIGNAL THAT US WAS INTERESTED IN
IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH GOT AND AS CONSEQUENCE GOT WAS REACTING
FAVORABLY. SPECIFICALLY, FIATY SAID THAT EFFECT
OF IMPROVED BILATERAL RELATIONS HAD BEEN TO REDUCE SIGNIFICANTLY
SUSPICION OF PRESIDENT EYADEMA ABOUT CONTACTS BETWEEN MILITARY
AND WESTERNERS. THIS HAD BEEN RECEIVED WITH GREAT RELIEF BY

MILITARY, MANY OF WHOM ASPIRE TO US TRAINING, EMBASSY DESIRES TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM GAINED BY IMET TRAINING POSSIBILITIES AND REQUESTS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION FOR CURRENT YEAR TRAINING FUNDS.

3. FIATY, WHO SPEAKS ENGLISH AND SERVED AS LIAISON FOR THE USS TRIPPE VISIT IN FEBRUARY 1977, IS OFTEN GIVEN TASKS OF HIGH SENSITIVITY BY PRESIDENT EYADEMA. HE WAS HAND-PICKED BY EYADEMA TO BE OFFICER OF THE DAY WHEN GOT ANTICIPATED MERCENARY RAID ON OCTOBER 15.

4. COMMENT: FACT THAT PROMOTIONS ESSENTIALLY LIMITED TO SOUTHERNERS OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN VIEW OF EYADEMA'S GREAT EMPHASIS ON RECRUITMENT OF NORTHERNERS FOR TOGOLESE MILITARY. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT SOUTHERN OFFICERS PERFORMED PARTICULARLY WELL, IN COMPARISON WITH NORTHERNERS, IN SECURITY PREPARATIONS FOR ANTICIPATED MERCENARY ATTACK. CLEARLY, THIS DID NOT GO UNNOTICED BY PRESIDENT EYADEMA. PALMER

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